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~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD

WH29849 SECTION ONE OF TWO

MORI PER C03360338

TOHAK 102

DECEMBER 8, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

DIA, NSA, DOS
review(s) completed.

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

THIEU TO ADDRESS SOUTH VIETNAMESE CONGRESS TODAY: ACCORDING TO A PRESS ITEM FROM SAIGON, PRESIDENT THIEU HAS SCHEDULED AN ADDRESS TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE CONGRESS TODAY. THERE ARE REPORTS HE WILL DISCLOSE HIS DECISION ON WHETHER TO GIVE OR WITHHOLD HIS SUPPORT FOR THE DRAFT PEACE TREATY. TIN SONG SAID THIEU WAS EXPECTED ONLY TO ASK FOR A SIX-MONTH EXTENSION OF SPECIAL POWERS HE ASSUMED LAST JUNE TO RULE SOUTH VIETNAM BY DECREE. THE ONLY POWER SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM THIS DECREE IS THE POWER TO MAKE PEACE, WHICH CONGRESS RESERVED FOR ITSELF.

PLAN FOR U.S. WITHDRAWAL IN 45 DAYS: AN ARTICLE BY JOSEPH FRIED IN TODAY'S EDITION OF THE NEW YORK NEWS STATES THAT THE U.S. PLANS TO BEAT THE PROPOSED 60-DAY WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE UPON THE SIGNING OF A CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT BY EMPTYING SOUTH VIETNAM OF ALL BUT A HANDFUL OF AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL WITHIN 45 DAYS. THE WITHDRAWAL PLAN REPORTEDLY CALLS FOR THE DAILY DEPARTURE OF 500 TO 1,000 AMERICANS WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE START OF THE CEASE-FIRE. THE U.S. WILL ALSO TRANSPORT HOME 37,000 SOUTH KOREAN TROOPS AND 10,000 NORTH VIETNAMESE PRISONERS.

TO DIA, THE TANKER TRAM GIANG MAY HAVE DEPARTED HAIPHONG HARBOR. SHE IS A CONVERTED LST WITH A LIGHT-LOAD DRAFT OF ABOUT TEN FEET AND COULD HAVE LEFT DURING HIGH TIDE, THUS AVOIDING THE MINEFIELDS. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE INDICATIONS THE MERCHANTMAN VIET BAO IS PREPARING TO DEPART. VIET BAO HAS A LIGHT-LEAD DRAFT OF ABOUT 15 FEET AND COULD ALSO EXIT DURING HIGH TIDE WITHOUT USING THE SHIP CHANNEL. TRAM GIANG'S DEPARTURE WOULD BRING TO THREE THE NUMBER OF SMALL SHIPS KNOWN TO HAVE LEFT HAIPHONG HARBOR RECENTLY.

NVAF MIG-21S RETURN TO PHUC YEN FROM SOUTHERN AIRFIELDS: COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT ON DECEMBER 7, ONE NORTH VIETNAMESE AIR FORCE MIG-21 FIGHTER FROM QUANG TRI AND AT LEAST ONE MIG-21 FROM BAI THUONG RETURNED TO PHUC YEN. AS OF THIS DATE, THERE ARE NO COMMUNICATIONS REFLECTIONS OF MIGS AT AIRFIELDS IN SOUTHERN NORTH VIETNAM.

RAIL REPAIR IN NORTH VIETNAM: [REDACTED] AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY [REDACTED] SHOWS THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAVE NOW COMPLETED WORK ON THE RAIL BYPASS BRIDGE OVER THE RED RIVER AT HANOI. CONSTRUCTION OF THIS BRIDGE, A COMBINATION OF FIXED SPANS AND PONTOON SECTIONS, BEGAN IN EARLY NOVEMBER, SHORTLY AFTER THE PARTIAL U.S. BOMBING HALT. THE NEWLY COMPLETED STRUCTURE REPLACES A SMALL-CAPACITY RAIL FERRY, AND IT TOO IS A TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT FOR THE HEAVILY DAMAGED PAUL DOUMER BRIDGE. THE SAME PHOTOGRAPHY REVEALED THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF VEHICLES IN RECENT MONTHS JUST NORTHEAST OF HANOI. MORE THAN 400 VEHICLES WERE BACKED UP ON ROADS LEADING TO VARIOUS BRIDGES AND BYPASSES. THIS TRAFFIC CORROBORATES OTHER INDICATIONS OF HEAVY SUPPLY SHIPMENTS THROUGH THIS AREA.

CARGO FOR NORTH VIETNAM: THERE ARE NOW 18 FOREIGN MERCHANT
No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/09/29 : LOC-HAK-546-21-16-5

SHIPS -- FOUR MORE THAN YESTERDAY -- CARRYING CARGO, DESTINED
FOR NORTH VIETNAM, TO CHINESE PORTS OR DISCHARGING THEIR CARGO
IN CHINESE PORTS. THREE SOVIET CARGO SHIPS AND A CUBAN FREIGHTER
HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE LIST. [REDACTED]

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NORTH VIETNAMESE VIEWS ON ICCS: PRESS STORIES THAT THE NORTH
VIETNAMESE HAVE REJECTED INDONESIA AS A MEMBER OF THE NEW INTER-
NATIONAL SUPERVISORY AND CONTROL COMMISSION IN SOUTH VIETNAM SEEM
OVERDRAWN, BUT THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT HANOI IS LESS THAN EN-
THUSIASTIC OVER JAKARTA'S PARTICIPATION. NORTH VIETNAMESE MEDIA
TOOK THE INDONESIANS TO TASK MORE THAN ONCE LAST WEEK FOR ALLEGED
PRO-U.S. BIAS. IN THE PROCESS, HANOI HAS ALSO GIVEN SOME CLUES
TO THE LIMITATIONS IT WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPOSED ON THE STRUCTURE
AND MANDATE OF THE COMMISSION.

CIA THINKS No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/09/29 : LOC-HAK-546-21-16-5

CONTAINS NO MILITARY MEN, AND HAS NO AUTHORITY TO INTERFERE WITH THE "SOVEREIGNTY" OF THE PARTIES OF THE AGREEMENT. NOTWITHSTANDING THE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN THE SITUATION OVER THE LAST 18 YEARS, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE MAY BE THINKING IN TERMS OF THE CEASE-FIRE SUPERVISION AGREEMENT THAT WAS WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND THE VIET MINH AFTER THE GENEVA CONFERENCE OF 1954 -- AN AGREEMENT WHOSE TEXT WAS RECENTLY PASSED BY HANOI TO ITS PARIS DELEGATION. ACCORDING TO THAT TEXT, PRIMARY SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY LAY WITH A FRANCO-VIETNAMESE "JOINT CENTRAL COMMISSION," INDEPENDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION (TODAY'S ICC), WHOSE TWO COMPONENTS REPRESENTED THE RESPECTIVE MILITARY COMMANDS. IN THE 1954 AGREEMENT, THE ICC WAS CALLED IN ONLY WHEN THE JOINT COMMISSION COULD NOT AGREE AND EITHER PARTY REQUESTED IT; THE ICC HAD NO POWER OF ENFORCEMENT.

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No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/09/29 : LOC-HAK-546-21-16-5